

MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 16, 2011
10:00 AM
COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Acting Chair, Mr. Nicholas Verret, in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

2. **ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Roll was called and a quorum was present. Others in attendance were asked to identify themselves.

Present: Acting Chairman Nicholas Verret, Commissioner Wayne Davis, Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Randell Fletcher, Commissioner Andrew J. Hodges, III, Commissioner James F. Maxey, Commissioner Alvin Owens, Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge

Absent: Commissioner James Douglas Brown, Commissioner Michael Simpson

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Ken Guidry - Executive Director, Mr. Randy Walters - Marketing Director, Mr. Mike Boydstun - Operations & Maintenance Director, Mrs. Cathy Rushing - Executive Assistant, Mr. Colin Brown- Engineer Supervisor, Mr. Luke Pearson- Real Estate Manager, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Ms. Sharon Balfour, Mrs. Jessica Broadway, Mrs. Robin Cosenza, Mr. Robert Breedlove, Mr. Johnny Martin, Mr. John Marzullo

3. **APPROVAL OF REVISED AGENDA**

By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, the agenda was revised and unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

By motion of Commissioner Hodges, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the minutes of the January 19, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, the Financial Statements for the month of December, 2010, and the Expenditures, Financial Statements & Investment Reports for the month of January, 2011 were unanimously approved.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) **Contracts**

Consideration of Mowing Proposals By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved the following mowing contracts.

- Brouillette, Ben Routh, and Lock & Dam No. 2 Boat Ramp to Green's Park Service for \$1,050 per mowing cycle.
- Boyce & Red Bayou to Jeff's Landscaping and Lawn Service for \$600 per mowing cycle.
- Grand Ecore to Greens Park Service for \$525 per mowing cycle.

Consideration of Mowing Contract Price Change/Alexandria Levee Park - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission unanimously approved a Price Rate Change to the mowing contract with Green's Park Service for a reduction of \$95 per mowing cycle for the Alexandria Levee Park due to a reduction in the number of acres to be mowed during the bridge construction activities currently on-going at that location.

Consideration of Dredge Proposal/Pine Bluff Sand & Gravel - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved a dredging contract with Pine Bluff Sand & Gravel at \$1,950 per hour for a 24" dredge as needed.

Consideration of Backhoe Purchase - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved authority for staff to purchase a new Case 580SN Backhoe at \$67,503.52 under State Contract.

Authority to Purchase New Vehicles - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved authority for staff to purchase two new Ford F-150 pick-up trucks with extended cab through the City of Alexandria contract with Hixson Autoplex of Alexandria at a contract price of \$19,537.00 each.

Authority to Advertise Recreational Dredging Project - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved authority for staff to advertise for bids for a dredging services at various locations in Pools 4 and 5 near Caspianna Lake, McDade Lake and the Oxbow near the bridge at Coushatta.

Consideration of Brouillette Boat Ramp Lighting Proposals - By motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved authority to proceed with the installation of two lights at the Brouillette Boat Ramp facility, to be installed by Entergy with no up-front cost to the Commission, to be billed to the Commission at \$67.51 per month, with Entergy being responsible for maintenance and repairs as may be required.

b) **Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action**

Re-Consideration of Request to Cancel Land Lease/Wilson Point - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, the Commission approved authorization to cancel the Wilson Point lease with Mr. Steve Lambert, and authorized staff to re-advertise the lease. Commissioner Prestridge

abstained. **Authority to Advertise Timber Thinning Project/Pool 3, Tract 24/Fletcher Land Company** - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Hodges, the Commission unanimously approved a declaration of timber surplus and authorized staff to advertise for the thinning of the surplus timber at Pool 3, Tracts 24 location.

Spring Bayou Restoration Team, LLC Request - By motion of Commissioner Dupuy, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved a resolution (SEE ATTACHED) requesting that the USACE consider conducting a feasibility study to determine the feasibility of raising the pool stage of Pool 1 from an elevation of 40 feet to an elevation of 42 feet during periods of low rainfall so as to allow for gravity flow system through Petit Bayou Rouge to Little River and to the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area complex.

c) **Recreation** - A prepared report was provided, Mr. Michael Boydston also noted that there had been 94,000 visitors to the District recreation facilities during the month of January, 2011.

d) **Ports**

Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Natchitoches Parish Port/Transit Shed Additions Project - By Motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Dupuy, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Natchitoches Parish Port for \$330,000 in funding assistance for the Transit Shed Additions project.

Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Red River Parish Port/Dock Face Replacement & Dead Men Installation Project - By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Owens, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Red River Parish Port for \$300,000 in funding Assistance for the Dock Face Replacement and Dead Men Installation project.

Approval of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement/Caddo-Bossier Parish Port -By motion of Commissioner Fleming, seconded by Commissioner Prestridge, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreements with the Caddo-Bossier Parishes Port Commission for the funding assistance for the following projects:

Major Dock Rehabilitation Project - \$634,635

Dock Fendering Systems Project - \$381,600

Major Crane Rehabilitation & Upgrade Project - \$350,000

Approval of Alexandria Regional Port Authority Funding Request/Waste Tire Thermal Conversion Facility - By motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Crutchfield, the Commission unanimously approved the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Alexandria Regional Port Authority for the \$2,248,063 interim funding assistance for the Waste Tire Thermal Conversion Facility project contingent upon the following conditions and terms and the receipt of the associated documents:

1. The receipt of an irrevocable letter of credit from the proposed tenant in favor of the Red River Waterway Commission in the amount of \$2,248,063. In addition, an agreement between the tenant and the Red River Waterway Commission to be prepared and submitted to the RRWC for approval.
2. Executed reimbursement agreement between the Alexandria Regional Port Authority and the Louisiana Department of Transportation Ports Priority Program relative to this project.
3. Executed agreement between the Alexandria Regional Port Authority and the Louisiana Department of Transportation Ports Priority Program regarding project funding.
4. Letter from the Louisiana Department of Transportation to the Red River Waterway Commission stating the requirements necessary for reimbursement.
5. Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the Alexandria Regional Port Authority and the Red River Waterway Commission including all funding requirements along with any and all other conditions relative to the Project that may be deemed necessary by the Red River Waterway Commission.
6. Efforts by the Alexandria Regional Port Authority to request assistance from the City of Alexandria to provide the necessary utilities to the site.
7. Copy of executed lease agreement between the Alexandria Regional Port Authority and the tenant.

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing** - A prepared report was provided. Mr. Randy Walters noted that the Ports Association of Louisiana conference is being held in the Shreveport/Bossier City area, March 23-25, 2011. He also noted that he, Commissioner Paul Fleming and Mr. Ken Guidry would be traveling this week to New Orleans to attend the BASSMASTERS Classic.

f) **Personnel** - No report

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - No report

h) **Legislative** - Ms. Sharon Balfour reported that Secretary Sheri LeBas has issued letters to the Congressional Delegation in Washington, D.C., requesting the support of funding for operations and maintenance dredging concerns for the Red River and Quachita-Black River systems. She also pointed out some major dredging concerns with the Mississippi River, in particular Southwest Pass and the crossing at Baton Rouge. She stressed the major concerns for dredging for all waterways.

7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Mr. Ken Guidry reported that the insurance issues have been resolved with the transfer of policies secured through Louisiana Companies, agent for the Commission.

At this time, Mr. Guidry encouraged those Commissioners able to attend the National Waterways Conference in Washington, D.C., along with the Congressional visits March 8 - 11, 2011, make every effort to do so and contact the Commission office regarding those travel arrangements.

8. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packet. Mr. Colin Brown also reported on the following items:

- Staff is moving forward with the Brouillette Boat Ramp Lighting project.
- Staff anticipates being ready to advertise for bids for the Additional Amenities - North project within the next two to three weeks.
- The plans and specs for the Additional Amenities - Central project are currently under staff review.

- 9. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - No report
- 10. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - No report
- 11. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - Prepared reports were provided.
- 12. **OTHER BUSINESS** -

Commission Meeting Packet/Agenda Policy - At this time, in order to allow the Commissioners sufficient time to adequately review any matter brought before the Commission for consideration, by motion of Commissioner Prestridge, seconded by Commissioner Davis and unanimously approved, the Commission adopted the policy that in the future all supporting informational material and documents pertinent to any item to be addressed by the Commission must be received in the Commission office no later than the Friday prior to the week when the Commission meeting packets are mailed out, except in emergency situations due to unforeseen circumstances. It is so noted that the Commission meets on the third Wednesday of the every month. Meeting packets are mailed out on Monday of the week prior to the week of the Commission meeting.

- 13. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None

14. **RECESS**

At this time, by motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Fleming, and unanimously approved, the meeting recessed for lunch and the Secretary/Treasurer was authorized to pay for the meals of the Commissioners and their guests out of the funds of the District.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting reconvened immediately following lunch, however, there being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Owens, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER

NICHOLAS F. VERRET, JR.
ACTING CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, conducted an Ecosystem Restoration Study for the restoration of the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana;

WHEREAS, US Army Corps of Engineers proposed three options for reintroducing head water from the Red River into the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area, all of which are not feasible due to excessive cost;

WHEREAS, in an effort to explore less expensive options to reintroduce head water from the Red River into the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area, the Spring Bayou Restoration Team is exploring the feasibility of a gravity flow system from the Red River through Petit Bayou Rouge and Little River into the Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area;

WHEREAS, a gravity flow system would require the Red River pool stage between Lock and Dam No. 1 and 2 to be raised by two feet, from 40 feet to 42 feet; and

WHEREAS, Spring Bayou Restoration Team has requested that the Red River Water Commission adopt a resolution requesting that the US Army Corps of Engineers study the feasibility of raising the Red River pool stage between Lock and Dam No. 1 and 2 by two feet, from 40 feet to 42 feet.

NOW THEREFORE, BY MOTION of Commissioner Marc Dupuy, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Rogers M. Prestridge, the Red River Water Commission unanimously approved the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Red River Waterway Commission requests that the US Army Corps of Engineers study the feasibility of raising the Red River pool stage between Lock and Dam No. 1 and 2 by two feet, from 40 feet to 42 feet.

CERTIFICATE

I, James F. Maxey, Secretary/Treasurer of the Red River Waterway Commission, do hereby declare that the above Resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on February 16, 2011, at Natchitoches, Louisiana, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Natchitoches, Louisiana, this _____ day of _____, 2011.

JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER